DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 456 126 TM 033 183

AUTHOR Bancroft, Roger J.

TITLE Do Pretests Increase Student Achievement as Measured by

Posttests?

PUB DATE 2001-04-00

NOTE 36p.; Master of Arts Action Research Project, Saint Xavier

and IRI/Skylight Field-Based Master's Program.

PUB TYPE Dissertations/Theses (040)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS *Academic Achievement; Achievement Gains; *Junior High

School Students; Junior High Schools; *Pretests Posttests;

Science Instruction; *Test Results

ABSTRACT

This report describes a study of the effects of using pretests in science classes on chapter test achievement results. The targeted population consisted of eighth grade science students at a junior high school from 1992 to 2001. Whether giving a pretest followed by a posttest at the end of the chapter, or giving only the test at chapter end resulted in superior class averages was investigated. Results show that in all cases giving pretests increased the score on the posttest over the use of the posttest only. A statistical analysis was performed to detect any difference in science test averages for the targeted groups. In three subject areas (Genetics, Chemical Families, and Rocks and Minerals), the null hypothesis was rejected; giving a pretest did increase achievement. For one additional topic, the null hypothesis was supported; the pretest did not increase the achievement score in comparison with the results from posttest alone. It is recommended that the use of the pretest/posttest format be followed, with the objective being a positive effect on student achievement as measured by the Illinois Goals Assessment Test. (Contains 11 tables and 23 references.) (Author/SLD)



DO PRETESTS INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AS MEASURED BY POSTTESTS?

Roger J. Bancroft

An Action Research Project Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
School of Education in Partial Fullfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Teaching and Leadership

Saint Xavier University & SkyLight
Field-Based Masters Program
Chicago, Illinois
April 2001

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

R. Bancroft

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Office of Educational Research and Improvement EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

CENTER (ERIC)

This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

 Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.



SIGNATURE PAGE

This project was approved by

John B.D. Advisor

Geverly Gulley

Dean, School of Education



Do Pretests Increase Student Achievement as Measured by Posttest Scores?

By Roger Bancroft

April, 2001

ABSTRACT

This report describes a comparison of science chapter test achievement results. The targeted population consisted of eighth grade science students from the year 1992 to the present. General Junior High School is located in an affluent middle class community. The problem deals with a comparison of science chapter test averages. Which testing procedure produces superior class averages: Pretest followed by a posttest at the end of the chapter or giving a posttest only at chapter end?

Comments by the school principal and some parents as well as the author's own curiosity prompted this study. Does using a pretest have a significant improvement in class test averages to warrant using the time for a pretest rather than regular science activities? A literature reviews show the use of pretest/posttest for educational research to be wide spread. There was a paucity of information on pretesting as a tool to improve student test achievement.

The results indicate that 100% of the pretests given increased the score on the posttest over the use of posttest only. It is recommended that the use of pretest/posttest format be used. This has the potential to increase posttest scores. A positive effect on the student achievement, as measured on the Illinois Goals Assessment Test, will be the hoped for affect.

Statistical analysis was performed to detect any difference in science test averages of the targeted groups. At this point, the null hypothesis assumes that there is no difference between the groups. In three out of three subject areas, Genetics, Chemical Families, and Rocks and Minerals, the null hypothesis was rejected, i.e., giving a pretest at the beginning of each topic did increase achievement on the posttest given at the end of the chapter. In one topic, the null hypothesis was found to be true. The pretest did not increase the achievement score as compared to posttest only. Discussion on the use of a pretest to improve test scores on a posttest and the proper use of pre/post testing is also found in the report.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1 - PROBLEM STATEMENT AND CONTEXT	1
General Statement of the Problem	1
Immediate Problem Context	3
The Surrounding Community	3
National Context of the Problem	5
CHAPTER 2 - PROBLEM DOCUMENTATION	7
Problem Evidence	7
CHAPTER 3 - THE SOLUTION STRATEGY	9
Literature Review	9
Project Objectives and Processes	11
Methods of Assessment	13
CHAPTER 4 - PROJECT RESULTS	16
Historical Description of the Intervention	16
Presentation and Analysis of Results	16
Conclusions and Recommendations	17
APPENDICES	21



CHAPTER 1 PROBLEM STATEMENT AND CONTEXT

General Statement of the Problem

The students of the targeted eighth grade science classes have been tested using two formats. For the years 1996 through 1999, a pretest was given at the beginning of each chapter. After the lessons, using laboratory activities, written reports, homework, quizzes and a chapter review, a posttest was administered. For the years 1999 through 2001, after all chapter activities, a posttest was given. There was no pretest. The question being asked is: Does a pretest increase the scores on the post test when compared to giving a posttest only?

Immediate problem Context

General School (hereafter referred to as General) is located in an upper middle class bedroom community of a major city. Homes built in the area of the school are of the same general age as the school. The school has been added to twice in the past twenty five years. In a way, the school has grown up with the community. A third edition is planned, adding eight more classrooms and a new lunchroom.

The General has been in transition to a middle school for the last two years. There are three feeder elementary schools, kindergarten to sixth grades, that send students to the General. In the next two years, the sixth grade will be moved to the General when the building converts to a middle school. Enrollment will rise from the current 376 to 525 students.

As this change is occurring, the principal is retiring and a former assistant principal is returning s the new principal. Currently, this person is serving as a principal of a middle school in a



a community similar to the General's.

The school is divided into three teams. Divided along grade lines, there is one team per grade level with the third team being a mix of the remaining students. Each team utilizes a different area of the building so that contact between different team members, both student and teacher, is limi Science instruction time per class is 45 minutes. Topics covered in four general areas are listed in Table 1.

Table 1
Science Topic Covered During the School Year

Topic	Content
Earth Science	rocks, minerals, earthquakes, volcanoes
Physical Science	chemical families, motion, heat
Biological Science	genetics and lab safety issues
Environmental Science	Fruitvale Study
Rocket Launch	integrated math, science, technology

Students are asked to do one formal writing assignment. The topic is an answer to the problem "What causes explosive volcanoes to erupt?". There is extensive use of hands-on activities in the form of laboratory experiments. Evaluation of these laboratory papers is done using a 25 point rubric developed locally by the science teacher. Chapter test score, quizzes and homework add to the evaluation mix. Grades are kept by a computer grading program, and students are given grade reports on a weekly basis.

There are no minority faculty members presently at The General. There are about 25 full time faculty plus a number of teacher aides. There are several special education rooms including a Developmental Learning Program group. Teacher and administrator characteristics are all similar to the state averages. It should be noted that teacher salaries fall below the state average while administrative salaries are above the state average. Instructional expenditure per pupil is at the state average.

The Table 1 summarizes the IGAP scores from the school year 1999-2000. Current ISAT score are not available.



Table 2

Illlinois Goals Assessment Program Results

Test	% meets/	
	exceeds	
Mathematics	59	
Reading	85	
Writing	85	
Science	92	
Social Science	92	

The summary clearly shows that math is significantly below other tested areas. The General has been engaged in an effort to raise test scores so that the school will rank among the top 5 of the schools in southeast General County.

The Surrounding Community

The General is 75 % white with a 13% Asian/Pacific Islander population. The remaining percentage is divided between Hispanic and Black students. Low income is a small 6% compared to the state's 36% average. Class size is similar to the state's average of 23. Table 1 gives the ethnic breakdown and enrollment of the school, district, and state



District demographics mirror State of Illinois data, as can be seen in the following Table 2.

Table 3

Racial/Ethnic Background and Total Enrollment

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/Pacific	Native	Total
			_	Islander	American	Enrollment
School	75.1%	4.6%	6.9%	13.3%	0.0%	390
District	74.0%	6.4%	5.7%	13.7%	0.2%	1,798
State	62.0%	20.8%	13.9%	3.2%	0.2%	1,962,026

Table 4

<u>Teacher Education and Pupil Teacher Ratios</u>

	Average Teacher	Teachers with	Teachers with	Average Teacher	Average Administrator
	Experience	Bachelor's	Master's	Salary	Salary
District	13	63	36	\$41,759	\$79,577
State	15	53	46	\$45,337	\$76,917

	Pupil	Pupil	Pupil
	Teacher	Certified	Administrator
	Ratio	Ratio	Ratio
District	20:1	15:1	236:1
State	19:1	14:1	243:1

The local community uses General School for evening and Saturday sports, which include basketball, soccer and baseball. School facilities are utilized by many community groups.

The funding of the General School District, as listed in the School Report Card, finds the



General District to be spending \$1200.00 below the state average of \$6600.00 per pupil. Other comparison can be seen in Table 5

Table 5
Illinois Funding Resources

	Equal				
	Assessed	Tax	Instructional	Operating	
	value	rate	Expenses	Expenses	
	per pupil	per \$100	per Pupil	per Pupil	
District	\$181,682	3.12	\$3361	\$5466	·
State	163,959	\$3.05	\$3990	\$6682	

General Town is divided by three elementary districts. General District is one these. General District has three different mailing addresses since town boundaries does not coincide with zip code lines of demarcation. Upon graduation from General School, graduates will attend Hornet or Mustang High as high school boundaries split General Town, north to south. The use of pretest/posttest has surfaced only in the last year because of the principal of General School. The administrator asked the researcher not to use the pretest in targeted science classes. The Principal felt that the idea of pre testing was ineffectual and confusing to parents.

National Context

Pretesting and posttesting is used in numerous studies, (Cox and Vargas, 196), Smith and Dangbe, 1991, Subkoviak and Harris, 1984). As a research tool for comparing before and after treatments, it is unquestioned.

The problem, as related to the targeted eighth grade classes is a narrow one. Does the use of pretest and posttest produce greater test averages than using post test only. See Figure I for a visual representation of the problem. Literature surveys have failed to find any specific studies that shed light on the problem. However, a report by Cox and Vargas (1966) and Rachor and Gregory (1996), asked a similar question related to criterion referenced tests. The conclusion reached showed that the results of the two testing formats were sufficiently different to warrant the use of pre testing and post testing, especially when criterion referenced tests are called for. Criterion referenced tests are the type currently in use with the science curriculum



CHAPTER 2 PROBLEM DOCUMENTATION

Problem Evidence

Figure 1 on the following page, compares student achievement using pretesting followed by a posttest to an environment which uses only posttest. The circles represent students being funneled through a typical unit of science. As they proceed through each set of funnels, the circles increase because of the student gains in achievement. It is proposed that taking the same test twice as a pretest and then as a posttest will increase the circle size more than pretest only.

At the beginning of each year a meeting with the targeted school principal is held to discuss class startup and the curriculum. The principal asked that pre/posttesting not be a part of the curriculum. He stated that the technique of two tests were of no benefit to the students. He wanted the teachers to use posttest only. Apparently parents would see the pretest score in the student grade report and assume this was a test grade. These grades would upset the parents and of course the principal is only a phone call away.

To bring the light of day to the principals assertion, test data from the years when pre/posttesting was used up to the last two years when pre/postting was away with, a comparison of pre/posttesting to posttesting only was in order.

The question that is being asked is a narrow one. Can a pretest influence the score on a posttest by increasing the posttest score over what the test taker would have received without the pretest.

The literature contains very few references on this narrow point. A search produced



contradictory results. Henson (1970) found that intelligence had a greater impact on posttest scores than pretest. Weimer (1999) observed that several predictor measurements for pretests were higher than for posttest.

It would also be reasonable to assume that performance on the pretest can be used to predict posttest results. That is, high scores on the pretest should mean high scores on the posttest. Yap (1979) found that sample size significantly influence posttest results. In other words, the greater the class size the greater the effect of pretest scores on post test scores.



CHAPTER 3 THE SOLUTION STRATEGY

Literature Review

Evaluation of student progress is always a tough task. An excellent example of an integrated curriculum that includes student evaluations. The subject is social studies but could as easily be any other subject matter including science. The document produced by the Texas Education Agency (1976) list three types of tests. Norm referenced tests are used to judge progress from one year to the next. This type of test an achievement test like the SAT (Standford Achievement Test).

Criterion referenced tests, measure progress toward a specific objective. These are teacher designed tests or tests supplied by the publishing company to be used with the book chapters. The Illinois Goals Assessment Program test may be a test of this type.

The final option given by this paper is an informal teacher constructed test. This type can be of a criterion referenced type as long as it relates significantly to the specific subject matter. Any of these could be used as a pretest/posttest format.

Criterion referenced tests were the norm in educational instutions. The question that needs answering is, whether or not the students have gained knowledge over and above their knowledge baseline? Since only a posttest is used, there is no means of finding out how much the students have gained. The use of pretest/posttest is a technique that can measure real gain. The same set of questions were used twice but arranged in a different order. These tests were given at the beginning of the chapter (pretest) and at the end of the chapter (posttest). Students received two grades, (one for the posttest and one based on the difference between the two tests.) The student's



test average includes a part based on a criterion reference test and a part based upon actual improvement of knowledge over a student's knowledge base.

Pretest/posttest use abounds in the educational and science literature. Donaldson (1992) used these tests in a Title One reading and mathematics program in Columbus (Ohio). In a paper by Gribbons and Herman (1997), pretest/posttest was compared to posttest only format. Their conclusion was that the choice of test type for class use depends on the purpose of the evaluation. The authors recommend that multiple evaluation methods be used in the grading of students. The authors did not make any conclusion on the effect of the pretest on the scores students achieved on the posttest. Denton (1974) suggests ways of making good pretests which he calls preinstructional testing.

Huck, Cormier, and Bounds (as cited in Bennett, 1983) state that the simplest test design in research is a pretest/posttest control group design. Using pretest/posttest system is simple to use and execute. It takes about twenty minutes of class time to administer the pretest and thirty minutes for the posttest.

Bennett (1983) then used the two test scenarios on a control group and a treated group. This is very reminiscent of science research. Then to judge if the treatment had any effect over the control group, the author subjected the results to a rigorous statistical test called the t-Test of Independent Means. Analysis of Covariance was also used with the pretest data serving as the cavariant. Again the focus of the paper was on which statistical test may have an advantage over the other in order to see if the treatment made a significant difference in treatment effect. The conclusion the author found was ambivalent. It is recommended by Raffeld (1997) that the pretest/posttest difference of the control group be subtracted from the experimental pretest/posttest difference.

Project Objective and Processes

Student test scores for pre/posttesting were obtained from grade records for the years 1995-1998. These were score were the raw number correct counts and not precentages. Posttest only scores from the school years 1999 to 2001 were also obtained. The three test topics were chosen because of the completeness of class records. Sample tests for these topics can be found in Appendix B. Student data is from science classes of the General School at the eighth grade level. To protect student confidentiality, scores were reported by student identification number. Each



class of student scores were averaged and all class averages can be viewed in Tables 6 and 7.

Table 6
Class Averages of Pretest Followed By a Posttest

Genetics	Rocks and Minerals	Chemical Families
25.3	18,65	21.43
25.3	21.43	21.43
37.75	17.17	16.77
23.68	38.63	40.26
27.33	36.44	36.07
20.75	42.53	38.21
40.00	40.48	33.59
46.48	44.07	28.91
38.96	39.84	38.21
60.61	39.84	
20.		•



Table 7

<u>Class Averages of Posttest Only</u>

Gene	etics	Rocks and Minerals	Chemical Families
21.	93	21.10	23.93
22.	03	18.32	18.37
28.	03	18.40	18.18
20.	19	18.40	18.18
21.	16	23.10	18.18
21.	16	23.10	15.40
20.	42		
17.	12		

For purposes of statistical the testing, the null hypotheses states that there is no difference between the mean scores of the post test when using either pretest/posttest design of posttest only design. The alternative hypothesis is: a pretest increases posttest scores when compared to giving a posttest only.



Methods of Assessment

Tables 8, 9, and 10 report the averages by topic. Data needed for an Independent samples t-Test is found at the bottom of each of the three tables.

Table 8

Rocks and Minerals t-Test Work Sheet

	Class Aver	ages	
	Rock and Mineral	Rock and Mineral	
	Posttest Only	Pretest and Posttest	
	21.10	18.65	
	18.32	21.43	
	18.40	17.17	
	18.40	38.63	
	23.10	40.48	
	23.10	42.53	
	19.71	40.48	
		44.07	
		39.84	
Sum of x	142.13	299.24	
Sum of x ²	2913.65	10898.84	
n=	7	10	
Mean	20.3	9.32	
Standard Deviation	2.15	10.89	



Table 9
Genetics t-Test Work Sheet

	Class Averages			
	Genetics	Genetics		
	Post Test Only	Pretest and Posttest		
	21.93	25.30		
	22.03	25.30		
	28.03	37.75		
	20.19	23.68		
	21.16	27.33		
	21.16	20.783		
	26.85	40.00		
	21.16	46.48		
	20.42	38.96		
	17.32	63.15		
		46.48		
		63.15		
		60.61		
		20.96		
Sum of x	160.58	539.93		
Sume of x ²	4940.68	23972.12		
n=	10	14		
Mean	22.05	23.13		
Standard Deviation	3.15	15.56		



Table 10
Chemical Families t-Test Work Sheet

Class Averages				
	Chemical Families	Chemical Familiesl		
	Posttest Only	Pretest and Posttest		
	21.10	18.65		
	18.32	21.43		
	18.40	17.17		
	18.40	38.63		
	23.10	40.48		
	23.10	42.53		
	19.71	40.48		
		44.07		
		39.84		
Sum of x	142.13	299.24		
Sum of x ²	2913.65	10898.84		
n=	7	10		
Mean	20.3	39.32		
Standard Deviation	2.15	10.89		



CHAPTER 4

PROJECT RESULTS

Historical Description of the Intervention

The intervention in this project was to give students a pretest prior to the commencement of any science activities. The test results were almost invariably a failure for all who took the pretest. Every now and then, a student was noted who received a grade of D on the pretest. After all the science lesson that cover the subject matter were completed and a written review of the subject matter was given to the targeted classes, a posttest was administered. The pretest and the postest are recorded in the electronic grading system. These grades will appear on the weekly grade report that each student of the targeted classes receive.

The use of these grades enabled me to answer the problem posed in this paper. The data The test scores were printed out and instead of name, a student identification number was attached. This should keep student name anonymous so that parent permission need not be sought.

The data was averaged for each class. The averages of all targeted classes were compared in tables of data. A t-value was computed and compared to a table of t-values. Acceptance or rejection of the null hypothesis was noted. If the null hypothesis was rejected then the alternative hypothesis was used.

Presentation and Analysis of Results

t-Values were calculated from the data and then compared to a table of t-values found in Appendix C. Table 11 summarizes the results of this statistical comparison.



Table 11
Summary of distribution for Correlated Samples Design

	Calculated	Table	Result of
	t-Values	t-Values	Comparison
Rocks/Minerals	4.21	1.345*	Null Hypothesis Rejected
Genetics	1.20	2.07	Null Hypothesis Rejected
Chemical	12.65	1.75*	Null Hypothesis Rejected
Families			

^{*}P < .05

The null hypothesis, there is no difference between the means of the pre/posttest and posttest only groups is rejected in all of the three subject areas listed in Table 10, i.e., there is a difference between the means of pretest/posttest and posttest only formats. If the table value is less than the calculated t-value then the null hypothesis, i.e., no difference between means, is accepted. As can be seen from Table 10, the three topics, Rocks and Minerals, Rocks and Minerals, and Chemical Families, there is a significant difference, at the 95% level. There is an increase in student achievement when a pre test is given at the start of a topic when the same test is used as a post test.

Three out three topics were found to significantly increase posttest scores when the students were given a pretest prior to the science activities. Two conclusions come to mind. First, giving a pretest prior to the start of a new topic increases post results 66% of the time. Second, more subject areas need to be looked at before a definitive conclusion can be stated. Since some is better than none I would use pretests as part of the evaluation of student achievement.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Since my work uses science test results, it is a good idea to compare science research terms to educational research terms. A pretest is given to one or two groups. An intervention is imposed on one group. A posttest is administered to determine if the intervention had any effect. In some studies a control group is used with no intervention. These are the basics of educational research.

In a study of the effects of two pesticides on the the development of Xenopus laevis (South African clawed toads) Bancroft and Prahlad (1972) found several developmental defects in adult



frogs. In this piece of science research, the pretest would be called the control. These are control animals were reared side by side with the treated toads thus experiencing the same environmental factors as the treated animals, with the single exception of the pesticides. The posttest in the instance of this research are pictures of the treated animals which are then compared to pictures of the control group. Any observable differences are then due to the treatment (pesticides).

The differences observed included blindness, balance organ abnormality and accordion shaped backbone. These are, for the animal, significant affects. These effects were seen in all animals that were treated so no statistical test was applied. This is the main difference between this study and the science research paper.

Thus both science and educational research have the same basic parts. Yes, based on the evidence presented in this action research, the targeted class did benefit from the use of a pretest.



References

- Bennett, R. P. (1993). <u>Comparison of Two Analysis Techniques For Pre-Test/ Post-Test Control Group Experimental Design</u> (Report o. TM 830128). Southwest Educational Research Association. (ERIC Document Reproductive Service No. ED 226069).
- Boyd, R. M. (1971). <u>Influence of Test Form On Assessment</u>, Australian Journal of Education. 15, 2, 161-70. (Accession No. EJ045250).
- Cox, R. C. & Vargas, J. S. (1966). <u>A Comparison of Item Selection Techniques For Norm-Referenced and Criterion-referenced Tests</u>, (Report No.: BR-6-0253-Reprint-?). Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: Learning Development and Resource Center. (ERIC Document No.: ED010517.
- Denton, Jon J. (1974) Pretests: How do you Construct Them? The Science Teacher: April, 1974. p. 42-43.
- Donaldson, W.S. (1992). Report of the Chapter 1 Sustained Effects Study. 1989-91. Elementary and Secondary Education Act--Chapter 1. Columbus, Ohio: Columbus Public Schools, Department of Evaluation. (ERIC doucument No.: ED348442).
- Durning, J. & Matyasec, M. (1999). <u>Improving Studdent Achievement Through Alternative Assessments</u>, (Clearinghouse No.: TM030286). Chicago. Saint Xavier University and IRI/Skylight. (ERIC No. ED435659).
- Eggleston, J. F.(1976). <u>Examinations—An alternative View</u>. Forum for the Discussion of New Trends in Education. (Accession No. EJ152717).
- Fisher, C and Yates, B. (1963). <u>Statistical Table for Biological</u>, <u>Agriculture and Medical Research.Longman Group</u>, <u>London</u>.
- Gribbons, B., & Herman, J. (1997). <u>True and Quasi Experimental Designs</u>. (Report No. EDOM-TM-97-03). Washington, D.C.: Clearinghouse on Assessment and Evaluation. (ERIC Document No. ED421483).
- Haladyna, T. & Roid, G. (1976). <u>A Theoretical and Emperical Comparison of Three Approaches to Achievement Testing</u>. (Accession No.: ED148903).
- Henson, Stanley Joe (1970). A Study of the Science Achievement of Earth Science Curriculum Project Students From Different Socioeconomic Areas. <u>University Microfilms</u>, No. 71-11.165. (300 North Zeeb road, Ann Harbor, Michigan 48106.
- Illinois School Report Card. (1999). <u>Eisenhower Junior High School.</u> (Darien School District 61, Darien, Illinois Grades 7 and 8). Springfield, Illinois.
- McNeal, K. (1990). <u>Use of the New One Group Posttest Only Design</u>. Chicago. Midwestern Educational research Association. (Accession No. ED325526).
- Rachor, R.E & Gregory, J. (1996). Reliability of Raw Gain, and Estimated True Gain Scores: A Simulation Study. (ERIC Document No. ED398269).



- Raffeld, P. & Reynolds, W.M. (1977). <u>Increasing the Efficiency of Pretest-Posttest Designs</u>. (Clearinghouse No.: TM006205). New York. American Education Research Association. (ERIC No. ED137399)
- Schafer, W.D. (1992). <u>Analysis of Pretest-Posttest Designs</u>. (Clearinghouse No.: CG541073). Measurement and Evaluation in Counselng and Development; Vol 25,p. 2-4. (ERIC Document No.: EJ445546).
- Smith, R.D. & Dangbe, W. (1991). An Analysis of Expected Grade Level Gain as a Result of Participation in the Mandatory Functional Literacy Program. (Clearinghouse No. CE057528). Florida. (ERIC Document No.: ED330827).
- Subkoviak, M.J. & Harris, D.J. (1984). <u>A Short-Cut Statistic For Item Analysis of Mastery Tests: A comparison of Three Procedures</u>. (Clearing house No.: TM840427). New Orleans, La.: American Educational Research Association. (ERIC Document No. ED247256).
- Texas Education Agency. (1976). <u>Evaluation and Social Studies: Practical Ideas For Classroom Teachers</u>, (Div. of Curriculum Development. Accession No ED 148713). Austen Texas.
- Vooijs, M. W. & van der Kamp, L. J. Th. (1990). <u>Linear Versus Nonlinear Analysis in the Measurement of Effects in a Quasi-Experimental Design</u>. Boston.American Educational Research Association.(ERIC No. ED319757).
- Weerasinghe, D, Orsak, T., & Mendro, R. (1997). <u>Value Added Productivity Indicators: A Statistical Comparison of the Pre-Test/Post-Test Model and Gain Model</u>. Austen, Texas. Southwest EducationalResearch Association. (ERIC Document No. ED411245).
- Weimer, Don. (1999). <u>Dealing With Messy Data: Analyzing Pre- and Post-test Assessment Results in the Real World</u>. (HE 032306). Milwaukee: Cardinal Stritch University, Association for Institutional Research.
- Yap, K.O. (1979). <u>Pretest-Posttest Correlation and Regression Models</u>. (Clearinghouse No.: TM009263). San Francisco, California. American Educational Research Association. (ERIC Document No. ED174641).



Appendix A
Samples of Test Questions Used to Produce Pre and Post Tests
A Computer Driven Test Authoring Program is Used to Produce These Tests.



Name_____Class___ CHAPTER 4 ROCKS AND MINERALS TEST

Please place all answers in the space provided in the left hand margin.

Multiple (Choice Questions	
1)	The size of crystals depends main	ly on
	(A) the presence of air.	(B) pressure.
	(C) cooling rate.	(D) the presence of water.
2)	Which of the following is a nonme	etallic mineral?
	(A) sulfur (B) lead	(C) coppper (D) aluminum
3)	Which of the following is an exam	ple of a sedimentary rock?
	(A) conglomerate	(B) obsidian
	(C) granite	(D) marble
4)	Rocks that form when great heat, existing rocks are called	pressure, and chemical reactions change
	(A) metamorphic rocks.	(B) mudrocks.
	(C) sedimentary rocks.	(D) igneous rocks.
5)	The luster of a mineral describes	
	(A) its color.	
	(B) the way it reflects light.	
	(C) its density.	
	(D) its ability to resist being scra	tched.
6)	Which of the following describes	minerals?
	(A) liquid.	(B) organic.
	(C) definite composition.	(D) synthetic.
7)	Rubbing a mineral sample across determining	unglazed ceramic tile is the usual way of
	(A) luster. (B) density.	(C) hardness. (D) streak.



8)	Rocks that form from r	nagma are called			
	(A) igneous rocks.	(B)	metamorphi	c rocks.	
	(C) sedimentary rocks	(D)	clastic rocks	. .	
9)	Which of the following	is an example of	a metamorph	ic rock?	
•	(A) granite (B)	marble (C)	breccia	(D) obsidian	
Fill-in-th€	e-blank questions				
10)	The breaking of a mine called		, flat surfaces	forming angles	s is
11)	Naturally occurring so	lids made of 2 or r	nore minerals	are called	
12)	The 1 to 10 hardness s		number 1 is a	assigned to talo	is
13)	Small pieces of rocks, s deposited by wind, wat	shells, or plant or er, and ice are call	animal remai	ins carried and	
	False questions: If the ord that will make the		e, replace the	underlined wo	ord
14)	When magma cools ra True / False	pidly, <u>large</u> cryta	lls are formed		
15)	The changing of one rock type into another as a result of heat, pressure, and chemical reactions is <u>sedimentation</u> . True / False				
16)	A mineral with a hardness of 6 will scratch a mineral with a hardness of more than 6. True / False				
17)	Rocks formed directly organic rocks. True / False	for indirectly fro	om once-living	material are c	alled
18)	The continuous chang rock cycle. True / False	ging of rocks from	one type to a	nother is called	I the



Use the d	iagram provided to help answer the following questions.
19)	What would happen if a piece of fluorite were rubbed against a piece of feldspar?
20)	An unknown mineral is found to scratch apatite and to be scratched by corundum. What can be said of this mineral's hardness?
21)	Which mineral is the hardest? What does this mean?
22)	What would you expect to happen if a mineral of hardness 7.5 were rubbed against a piece of quartz? Against a piece of topaz?

USING SCIENCE SKILLS: Making Comparisons, Identifying Relationships

Mineral	Hardness
Talc	1
Gypsum	2
Calcite	3
Fluorite	4
Apatite	5
Feldspars	6
Quartz	7
Topaz	6
Corundum	9
Diamond	10



WHAT IS GENETICS? 8TH GRADE

CHAPTER TEST

ALL ANSWERS ARE TO BE PLACED IN THE MARGIN ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE TEST PAGES.

1.	A word that means				_	
	A. pattern.	в. tallness	•	c. trait.	D. factor.	
	If genes for white f A. recessive. B. hybrid.	lowers masl	c. domii		the "red" genes are	
3.	When true-breedin offspring are A. all tall plants. B. all short plants.		are cross			
	c. some tall and so			on to anguar th	ie augstion	
	D. not enough info	rmation has	s been give	en to answer ti	ns question.	
4.	that the child will	be a girl?			hat is the probabilit	У
	A. 25 percent	в. 50 perce	ent C.	75 percent	D. 100 percent	
5.	The visible traits of A. mutations.			hybridization.	D. genotype.	
6.	If a plant has roun A. dominant chara B. hybrid.			type Rr, the r c. gene for rou d. gene for wr	undness.	
7.	•	lity that det		or example, who	ether a plant is tall o)1
	A. hybrids.			ant characteris	stics.	
	B. genes.		D. determ	niners.		
8.	offspring are all p	owers are cr ink flowers,	the genes	h purebred what for flower colo complete domin		
	A. codominance.			utations.	imico.	
	в. hybridization.		D. III	uanons.		

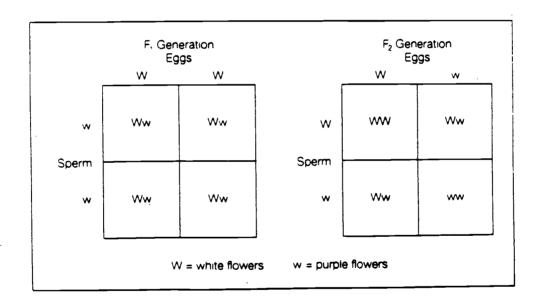


	If pink four-o'clock flowers were crossed, what type of offspring would be produced?
	a. all pink flowers
	B. red flowers, pink flowers, and white flowers
	c. red flowers amd white flowers
	D. all white flowers
10.	Which was not a reason for using pea plants to study inheritance?
	A. Pea plants have only one visible trait, which makes them easier to study.
	B. Pea plants grow quickly.
	c. Many generations of pea plants can be observed in a fairly short time.
	D. Pea plants can be crossed easily.
GREGOR	-THE-BLANK: CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WORDS TO COMPLETE SENTENCE: Y MENDEL, RECESSIVE, DOMINANT, GENOTYPE, PHENOTYPE, PROBABILITY, PUREBRED.
11.	Transferring pollen from the male part of one flower to the female part of another flower is called
12.	is called the Father of Genetics.
13.	The likelihood that a particular event will take place is called
14.	The actual gene makeup of an organism is called its
15.	A trait that is masked by a dominant trait is called
TRUE AN	ID FALSE
16.	Crossing short plants (tt) with each other produces only short plants. True / False
17.	Taxonomy is the study of heredity. True / False
18.	A recessive gene is represented by a capitol letter. True / False
19.	An organism with the genotype Tt is a purebred.



True / False

20.	cell.
	True / False
USE DI	AGRAM AT END TO HELP ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.
21.	Which trait, white flowers or purple flowers, is dominant? Which is recessive? How do you know?
22.	In the F ₁ generation, what are the genotypes of the offspring? The phenotypes?
23.	In which generation are the parents true-breeders? In which generation are the parents hybrids?
24.	What are the genotypes of the offspring in the F_2 ? The phenotypes?
25.	What is the ratio of white to purple flowers in the F ₂ generation?





CHAPTER 3 TEST FAMILIES OF CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1)	1) An alkane with 2 carbon atoms wo		ould have the formula		
			(c) C_2H_{10}	(D) C ₂ H ₄	
2)	A measurement of solvent under ce	of how much solut rtain conditions is	e can be dissolve called	ed in a given amount of	
•	(A) solubility.	(B) strength.	(C) polarity.	(D) molarity.	
3)	If an alcohol and compound is call	l an organic acid ar ed a(an)	e chemically con	nbined, the resulting	
	(A) ester.	(B) ar	omatic hydrocar	bon.	
	(C) lipid.	(D) ha	alogen derivative		
	•				
4)	Substances that	react with metals t	o produce hydro	gen gas are called	
	(A) acids.	(B) bases.	(C) salts.	(D) tinctures.	
				•	
5)	A substance that	does not conduct a	an electric currer	nt is called a(an)	
	(A) nonelectroly	te.	(B) tinctur	e.	
	(C) aqueous solu	tion.	(D) electro	lyte.	
6)	The general form	nula for an alkene	is		
	(A) C_nH_n		(C) C _n H _{2n}	(D) C _n H _{2n-2}	
	n n	n-2n+2	n''2n	'n''2n-2	
7)	A solution in whi	ch the solvent is a	cohol is a(an)		
	(A) tincture		(B) electroly	te	
	(C) aqueous solu	tion	(D) polar sol		
	(c) aqueoussoru	don.	(b) polar sor	ution.	
8)	An example of a	n alkyne is			
	(A) propane.	(B) butene.	(C) ethylene.	(D) ethyne.	
9)	A weak acid has	a pH of		•	
	(A) close to 7.	(B) close to 0.	(C) close to	14. (D) 7.	



USE THE SOLUBILITY-CURVE DIAGRAM TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.



21)	Which substance is least soluble at 15°C?
22)	Which substance is most soluble at 20°C?
23)	What is the solubility of KNO_3 at $70^{\circ}C$?
24)	How many grams of KNO $_3$ will settle out when a solution is cooled from $70^{\rm O}\!$
DRAW S	TRUCTURAL FORMULAS AND NAME THE MOLECULES BEOW.
25)	Draw a structural formula for CH ₄ .
26)	Draw a structural formula for C ₃ H ₆ .
IDENTIF	Y THE COMPOUNDS BELOW AS ACID (A), BASE (B), OR SALT
27)	Zn(OH) ₂
28)	NH ₄ CI
29)	$H_2 \odot_3$
30)	NaNO ₃



Appendix B The t-Distribution Table



TABLE D The / distribution*

	Confidence interval percents (two-talled)					
	80%	90%	95%	98%	99%	99 9%
		Sign	nificange leve	el for two-tai	led test	
	.20	.10	.05	02	.01	.001
		Sign	nilicance leve	el for one-tai	led test	
đ	.10	.05	.025	01	.005	.0005
1	3.078	6.314	12.706	31.821	63.657	636.619
2	1.886	2.920	4.303	6.965	9.925	31.598
3	1.638	2.353	3.182	4.541	5.841	12.924
4	1.533	2.132	2.776	3.747	4.604	8.610
5	1.47ó	2.015	2.571	3.365	4.032	6.869
6	1.440	1.943	2.447	3.143	3.707	5.959
7	1.415	1.895	2.365	2.998	3.499	5.408
8	1.397	1.860	2.306	2.896	3.355	5.041
9	1.383	1.833	2.262	2.821	3.250	4.781
10	1.372	1.812	2.228	2.764	3.169	4.587
11	1.363	1.796	2.201	2.718	3.106	4.437
1.2	1.356	1.782	2.179	2.681	3.055	4.318
13	1.350	1.771	2.160	2.650	3.012	4.221
14	1.345	1.761	2.145	2.624	2.977	4.140
15	1.341	1.753	2.131	2.602	2.947	4.073
16	1.337	1.746	2.120	2.583	2.921	4.015
. 17	1.333	1.740	2.110	2.567	2.898	3.965
18	1.330	1.734	2.101	2.552	2.878	3.922
19	1.328	1.729	2.093	2.539	2.861	3.883
20	1.325	1.725	2.086	2.528	2.845	3.850
21	1.323	1.721	2.080	2.518	2.831	3.819
22	1.321	1.717	2.074	2.508	2.819	3.792
23	1.319	1.714	2.069	2.500	2.807	3.767
24	1.318	1.711	2.064	2.492	2.797	3.745
25	1.316	1.708	2.000	2.485	2.787	3.725
26	1.315	1.706	2.056	2.479	2.779	3.707
27	1.314	1.703	2.052	2.474	2.771	3.690
28	1.313	1.701	2.048	2.467	2.763	3.674
29	1.311	1.699	2.045	2.462	2.756	3.659
30	1.310	1.697	2.042	2.457	2.750	3.646
40	1.303	1.684	2.021	2.423	2.704	3.551
60	1.296	1.671	2.000	2.390	2.660	3.460
120	1.289	1.658	1.980	2.358	2.617	3.373
\mathbf{x}	1.282	1.645	1.960	2.326	2.576	3.291

[•] To be significant the t obtained from the data must be equal to or larger than the value shown in the table.



SOURCE: Table III of Fisher and Yates (1963). Statistical Tables for Biological. Agricultural and Medical Research. published by Longman Group Ltd., London (previously published by Oliver & Boyd. Edinburgh), and by permission of the authors and publishers.



U.S. Department of Education

Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
National Library of Education (NLE)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)



TM033183

REPRODUCTION RELEASE

(Specific Document)

I. DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION	·	
Title: NO PRE TEST	S INCREASE ST	UDENT
HCH]	EVEMENT?	·
Author(s): BANCROFT	F, KOGER J.	
Corporate Source:	,	Publication Date:
Saint Xavier University		ASAP
II. REPRODUCTION RELEASE	:	
and electronic media, and sold through the ERI reproduction release is granted, one of the follow	e timely and significant materials of interest to the education (RIE), are usually made availa (C Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). Credit ving notices is affixed to the document.	ole to users in microfiche, reproduced paper copy is given to the source of each document, and,
The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 1 documents	The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 2A documents	The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 28 documents
PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY	PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE. AND IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA FOR ERIC COLLECTION SUBSCRIBERS ONLY, HAS BEEN GRANTED BY	PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE ONLY HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)	TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)	TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
1	2A	2B
Level 1 T X	Level 2A	Level 2B
Check here for Level 1 release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche or other ERIC archival media (e.g., electronic) and paper copy.	Check here for Level 2A release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche and in electronic media for ERIC archival collection subscribers only	Check here for Level 28 release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche only
Docume If permission to rep	nts will be processed as indicated provided reproduction quality p produce is granted, but no box is checked, documents will be proc	emits. essed at Level 1.
	urces Information Center (ERIC) nonexclusive permis on the ERIC microfiche or electronic media by perso e copyright holder, Exception is made for non-profit res	

Sign here,→ please

to satisfy information needs of educators in response to discrete inquiries.

Signature:

Organization/Address:
Saint Xavier Udiversity E. Mosak
3700 W. 103rd St. Chgo, IL 60655

Triby address xu.edu

Printed Name/Position/Title:

Student/s FBMP

Triby address xu.edu

Date: 3/20/01

III. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY INFORMATION (FROM NON-ERIC SOURCE):

If permission to reproduce is not granted to ERIC, or, if you wish ERIC to cite the availability of the document from another source, please provide the following information regarding the availability of the document. (ERIC will not announce a document unless it is publicly available, and a dependable source can be specified. Contributors should also be aware that ERIC selection criteria are significantly more stringent for documents that cannot be made available through EDRS.)

Publisher/Distributor:	
Address:	
Price:	
IV DEEEDDA! OF EDIC TO CODYDU	OUT DEDDOOD OF TOUR DIGITAL CO.
	GHT/REPRODUCTION RIGHTS HOLDER:
If the right to grant this reproduction release is held by someone other than the addressee, please provide the appropriate name and address:	
Name:	
· ·	
Address:	
	•
V. WHERE TO SEND THIS FORM:	•
Send this form to the following ERIC Clearinghouse:	ERIC/REC 2805 E. Tenth Street
	Smith Research Center, 150
	Indiana University Bloomington, IN 47408
	bloomington, na 47400

